QUEBEC, Sept. 17.-Canadian experts make no secret of their belief in the near extinction of the Behring Sea fur seals. The diminished returns of the vessels engaged in the sealing industry are leading many of them to seek lucrative employment elsewhere. While only twenty-four Canadian sealing craft participated in the hunt last year, as against thirty-five in 1892, the number now sweeping the north Pacific in chase of pelts is still smaller.

The total Canadian catch in 1902 was only 16.143 skins. Last year it amounted to 14.701, and the twenty-four vessels that secured them employed 299 white men 338 Indians, 92 boats and 164 canoes.

The result of the frightful slaughter of the Behring Sea seals for many years may be judged when it is recalled that in one season Baroneff, the former head of the old Russian fur company, recorded in his despatches that in consequence of the lack of proper means of transportation to Siberia no less than 800,000 fur seal skins that had been faultily stored had become spoiled and had to be thrown away. Yet even these enormous figures fail to convey an adequate idea of the richness of the famous Pribyloff Islands at the time of their discovery in 1786 by the Siberian Cossack of that name.

For years before this discovery daring Siberian fur hunters had pursued a vigorous search for the legendary "Amik," Eldorado of furs, the breeding ground of the fur seal, where they well knew that the peculiar instincts of the animal must lead to the congregation of untold numbers during the propagating season. And rich indeed were the spoils of Pribyloff when, drifting with torn sails in the desolation of Behring Sea, he chanced by a sudden lifting of the fog upon the four tiny mist enveloped specks of rockbound land and discovered upon the two largest of the group vast herds of fur seals.

He named the two islands-one of which is thirteen, the other ten miles long-after his two small vessels, St. Paul and St. George, and filled his craft to the top of the hold, crowding the decks with bales of peltries-even precious water casks were thrown overboard to make room for his valuable cargo. He carried away with him on this occasion 2,720 sea otter skins, the most valuable fur that grows, 8,000 silver and blue fox skins, and no fewer than 31.100 seal skins.

Later, the famous Russian Fur Company, in which many great nobles and even members of the Czar's family were partners, realized great wealth. In addition to the enormous quantities of seals taken in Behring Sea, the neighboring Aleutian Islands, stretching in a string from Asia to America, furnished them with rich supplies of sea otter, blue, black and silver fox, and other valuable furs, from a field which, in a century's fur hunting, has since become almost completely exhausted.

The latest inquiries of the naturalists into the habits of the seas show the futility of narrow zones of protection around the islands during the breeding season. The breeding range of the female sease extends at least fifty miles from the rocks on which the young are lying. If they are killed, as they constantly are, when on these foraging expeditions, the pups die of starvation, since no mether seal will adopt another's young. In one recent year more than 28,000 pups were found starved to death on the Pribyloff Islands, because their mothers had been killed while in search of food beyond the radius of protection.

Recent investigations have established the rather curious fact that the fur seal was once, and to a certain extent still is, a mature animals are now regarded as the most certain indication of the original status of a species. Now, baby seals can run on land, though their parents can only crawl, and they are so far from being aquatic that they drown if put in the water. The pups are actually afraid of the water. They have to learn to swim by repeated efforts, and even when able to maintain themse'ves in quiet water will rush away in lucierous haste from an approaching

When they have learned how to swim they forget how to walk. While the pup uses its hind flippers as feet, running on them in much the same manner as other land animals, a seal that has learned to swim only drags its hind flippers.

That the seals are still diminishing in numbers and that they have gone on diminishing in spite of the Paris regulations are facts which admit of little question. A little more than fifteen years ago an approximate estimate of the animals found on the islands of the Pribyloff group gave a total of 3,000,000. The rookeries and the hauling grounds were packed so closely that there was literally not room enough for all the seals to live comfortably. A careful count made some five years later resulted in the enumeration of a little more

Under the terms of the original lease the company in possession of the islands was permitted to kill 100,000 bachelor males every season. High as that limit appears it was really small by comparison with the number of the whole herd. Down to the time when pelagic sealing began to be prosecuted in the Behring Sea as well as in the open waters of the North Pacific there was little apparent falling off.

But in 1890, the last year of the old lease, the Alaska Commercial Company found it impossible to take the number of bachelors or "see-katchies" permitted by law, simply because there were not 100,000 to take. Under the new lease to the North American Commercial Company it was stipulated that the Secretary of the Treasury should fix the annual catch at his discretion. In 1895 Mr. Carlisle found it necessary to restrict the land catch to 15,000 male skins. In that same year the vessels engaged in the pelagic branch of the industry numbered ninety-seven, of which eighty-seven were employed in the award area. Between them they killed and recovered 56,291 seals, a decrease, as

compared with the corrected figures of 1894, of 5.547. Of this decrease there has been a persistent continuance. It is therefore apparent that the American Government is justified in its insistence that the Paris regulations fail to protect the herd from destruction. These regulations chiefly established a close season during May, June and July, and made it illegal to use firearms or explosives in Behring Sea, or to "kill, capture or pursue" the seal within a radius of sixty miles of the Pribyloff

Now, the Russian herd, which breeds on the Commander Islands, heads past the Kurile Islands for the Japanese coast, and in the spring returns by the way it went. The American herd makes right across from the Aleutian Islands to the

British Columbian waters, and returns along the shores of Alaska, entering Behring Sea again by way of Unalaska.

The pelagic sealers and the Alaskan Indians meet the seals, kill as many as they possibly can with spears and Winchesters register their catch at Unalaska or at Victoria and take care to be in the Behring Sea by Aug. 1. The number of females killed is in excess of the number of males, bull or bachelor, and between 60 and 70 per cent of the skins taken in the spring are those of females.

Many fair minded Canadian investigators fully admit the correctness of the American contention that if the Behring Sea herds are to be saved from total destruction, pelagic sealing must be prohibited while they are on their way to the breeding places and must only be permitted on the return journey, after the young are able to gain their own living at sea. The take of seals on the rookeries would be confined to the bachelor seals, or young males, which, until they reach the age of 5 or 6 years, are unable to acquire wives, and live in a kind of clubland on parts of the island beyond those occupied as married quarters by older seals.

The Canadian ship masters naturally protest against this, urging that the whole commercial benefit which would flow from the protection would accrue to the United States, which owns the islands where the rookeries are located, and that their crews would make no catch worth speaking of even if the herd did increase, since the return journey of the seals differs from that taken by them on their way northward.

During the latter the animals follow narrow route, parallel with the coast of the mainland. In the course of this migration the pelagic sealers can command the whole breadth of sea covered by the travelling seals. In autumn these make a direct journey across the open sea, scattering over a wide area, and offering few chances of making a remunerative catch. The rejoinder, of course, is that the seals taken on the outward journey are nearly all females, that they are about to produce their young and that, apart from the waste so caused, the absence of good feeling and humanity involved in the present industry are such as to entitle it to little consideration.

So far as the Canadian sealers are conerned, the reduced profits of the industry are already driving some of them out of it while there is every prospect that there will soon be no more northern seals for them either to kill or quarrel over. Several of them have already found it very much to their interest to turn the bows of their ships in other directions, in consequence of which a very important sealing industry has sprung up in the South Atlantic Ocean in the vicinity of the Falkland Islands.

In 1880, according to the best statistics, fewer than 1,500 skins were taken at the Falkland Islands, but later, after the catch had fallen so low that it scarcely paid to prosecute the hunt, and the few remaining seals thus had a chance to increase, the industry was resumed with even more satisfactory results than these attending the hunt in the northern Pacific.

In 1901 but one Canadian vessel operated in South Atlantic waters, making a catch of 1,630 seals. In the following year three vessels engaged in the fishery, procuring 3,840 seals, while during the last season eight vessels operated there and succeeded in taking 21,126 seals. This year the new industry is being prosecuted on a still larger scale.

MAKING PETS OF HORNETS. If Gently Handled, This Writer Says, They Become Docile as Butterflies.

From the Farm and Fireside. The female hornet has a rapid fire armament with a recoverable projectile. It uses it for both attack and defence, and with remarkable aim and efficiency. The first stroke of a hornet is as penetrating as an electric shock. At the base of its sharp sting here is a sack containing poison which, 'Mabel's back again to winter, when injected into the substance of its enemy. causes pain, swelling and discomfort, facts land animal. The habits and form of im- to which most persons are able to testify by experience. Should the injection be upon the end of the thumb or nose, or upon the tongue, there is danger from it. Strong ammonia applied to the wound is the best antidote. Yet the hornet when treated politely and with gentle ceremony is as docile as

butterfly In the mountains of West Virginia I had a wire fly trap which, by the seductive influ-ence of molasses, persuaded the house flies infesting my stave built office to enter. Once within it they remained incarcerated until hot water cured. For several days a very persistent black and white striped hornet amused me by its futile endeavors to seize flies from the buzzing horde of prisoners. At last it found its way in, and to my astonishment, after capturing a fly, found its way out. It had remembered the way of its entrance even in the excitement of the chase It did not paralyze its prey, as does the mud wasp and other species. It did not stop to eat a single fly so far as my observation extended. It had a victualling job on hand,

ishness excited admiration. During one of its absences I placed my hand over the trap entrance, and upon i laid a piece of ripe peach. Upon the hornet's return it lit upon my hand and ran confusedly over it, yet soon tried to get under the covering fingers. Failing, it went to the peach and took a hearty meal. While it was eating I quietly moved my hand from the openin After preening itself the hornet entered and continued its fly raid.

and attended faithfully to it. Such unself-

After many dozens of trips it brought a comrade with it, and personally conducted it into the fly pound. Thereafter they always worked together. To be sure of this, by slow approaches of an affectionate finger I was enabled to stroke them while lunching. I marked them both with a spot of red ink. Many continued experiences convinced me that hornets work in pairs, like detectives Several other hornets from the same nest visited the cage, tried to enter it, but found the problem too much for them. In no instance did the pair offer these instruction or pay any attention to them. They all partook of my lunches freely and in harmony. But the favored pair guarded their secret they selfish? Did they receive special plaudits they sellish? Did they receive special plaudits at the home nest for their phenomenal success in fly capture? Or were they simply governed by hornet manners?

I grew fond of these winged warriors. I

introduced them to my several fingers by placing tempting sweets upon them. They learned to come to me after they had emptied the trap of prisoners, and gradually became

the trap of prisoners, and gradually became very companionable.

Following the direction of their home flight, and noting the range of trees, their nest was easily found. It hung on the end of a branch of mountain rhododendron. The glossy, green leaves overhanging it were undisturbed in their position, but were so built into the outer layer of papier-maché covering as to give the nest natural concealment Whether this was intentional or not, or whether the leaves simply became an obstruction as the nest was increased in size by dismantling the inside and building upon the outside. I do not know, but the evidence was in favor of engineering, reason, intention, rather than accident. Hornets were the first users of wood pulp for paper manufacture. They make it from wood and leaf fibre, aid there are both forethought and economy in tearing out the insides of their nests to make room for larger tiers of cells in which to raise their young, and in using the material to enlarge the nursery.

Weird Custom of the Chinese.

From the South China Post. After the sinking of the Huang Tai several baskets of snakes were despatched by a local steamer and released in the vicinity of the It is a Chinese custom to release snakes wherever a wreck has taken place, the idea being that the snakes swallow the souls of the drowned and take them ashore.

POEMS WORTH READING.

The slothful Bear had stretched his length. And glorying in Gollath's strength Prepared to sack the hive at ease. Disdainful of the darting bees. When sudden from her suave repos-

A nation, armed, alert, uprose; But with contemptuous calm he saw. Waiting to swing his ponderous paw. And as they to the slaughter passed The pitcous world looked on aghast. Nor thought that from those isles should come

So flerce a foe to clout him home. But half the prestige of the Bear Lay in his roar and shaggy hair; By time's revenging turnabout His own broad back receives the known

Strike! till ye break the stolid horde That sought the judgment of the sword— Dared thy drawn sabre flashing clean. Nor thought to find its edge so keen.

Charge! and where'er your armies rol Strike for the Jew, the Finn, the Pole! Intrepld over trench and mine Swarms on her brown unbroken line They drop—the living take their place And join in glory's sanguine race;

Still on, by desperate valor led The living form steps o'er the dead. For each heroic comrade slain Another lives who counts it gain.

Blood stiffened, stark and still and grim. To share that solemn sleep with him. How shall your sluggish spirit stir With the fierce life that leaps through her? How could ye think with stolld might

To match th' infuriate rage of right? What quickening breath shall animate Your page of darkness, crime and hate How shall your hordes that despots drive

Ave. life itself they grandly give. They scour you from your high stronghold With frenzied charge no strength can stop They rush Kinchau's intrenched top.

Till files o'er fort and bastion won The emblem of the Risen Sun! Your great ships rot beneath the deep Your armies fly from fortressed steep. Recoiling from her front elate

Crumbles the blood cemented state Die as thine exiles long have died! The ghosts of men condemned untried— The forms that pressed the blood stained snow— Rise up and range them with the foel HOWARD WATROUS HALL.

"To-day and Forever."

From the Chicago Tribune.

Man builds a castle on a hill,
He makes a citadel or town
And ere the world may know his skill
Another comes to tear it down.
Yet, day by day and year by year.
Through all the changing centuries.
While men appear and reappear,
God paints his sunsets on the seas.

Not all the years the world has known
Have changed the pattern of the stars—
Though men in conflict for a throne
Have mapped the world with battle scars.
Though men in their own blinded way
Have grown confused of wrong and right.
God gives them still the golden day
And silent giory of the night.

He turns time's record, page on page.
And writes his history the same.
While men blot out each bygone age
In mistness of fading fame.
In countless numbers men arise
And try their weakness or their force.
Yet calmly through the endless sides
The earth holds its appointed course.

Man's dreams as deeds to him appear, And dreamlike, deeds and words are gone. But day by day and year by year We have the sunset and the dawn. We never come to understand The trenchant message brought by these-God ilmas his sunrise on the land And paints his sunsets on the seas.

The Manuscripts of God From the Westminster Gasette.
The Word of God in printed phrase is read by men in divers ways—
we spell, we doubt, and some forget.
That printed type is backward set.

But when the Print is hard to read. By dint of more or less of creed, The manuscript of God remains— Writ large in waves and woods and lanes And there we find the meaning clear; We lift our eyes—the hills are near— In rainbow tints, between the lines. We read it where the Promise shines

When the Tan Comes Off Two they hadn't in the spring.

And the woollands have a tint or
Two they hadn't in the spring.

Mabel's brown as any berry—
Lips are like a ruddy cherry,
Though she isn't quite so merry
As before her little filing.
But her sad preoccupation she will very quickly
doff— She'll have lost her little worry when the

Mabel hoped the summer'd bring her.
Reputation as a slinger
Of the sort of thrills that linger
In the heart of fickle man:
Now pernaps she's disappointed
That her schemes were all disjointed
Wrile with wormwood she's anotited
As she cons miscarried plans.
Did she waste her lime in fooling with the salty
wave and trough?
Yet she'll be all bunky-dory when the

Half the summer she was busy
With her cousins Lou and Lizzie,
Making seashore mashers dizzy
With her giddy bathing suit;
Always there was something doing.
Oft a hapless swain pursuing—
There was interest accruing
On pa's mortgages, to boot.
But although the season's over still it's papa's
time to cough,
For she'll keep on blowing dough to make the

come

comes

Chances are she had engagements.
Temporary heart assuagements,
Tantalizing soul enragements
Making efforts worth the while.
Doubtless she declared she'd never
Cease to love the being clever
Whom she'd caught with her endeavor
And her saccharinic smile.
But she isn't hurt past curing: soon her fiance she'll scoff.
And her heart hurt will be healing while the

Minerva Loquax. From the Somerelle Journal She talks so much! Her busy tongue
Works ceaselessly the livelong day.
Whatever happens, she's on hand
With something pertinent to say.
Her active brain can never reat,
And what she thinks ahe cannot keep
From saying. Really, I believe
She must talk even in her sleep!

She talks so much! I'm glad she does,
For what she says is good to hear.
And when she speaks it's worth your while
To lend a listening ear.
She's bright and witty, full of fun.
And constantly she keeps in touch
With all the questions of the day
I'm very glad she talks so much.

Father's Voyage. Full oft I've sped a tiny boat Upon the seas of sleep to float Heave ho, my boys, heave ho! But now I raise my voice to mark The course of Father's stouter bark.

Heave ho, my boys, heave ho! With careful eye the skipper stored Welsh rabbit and mince pie aboard Heave ho, my boys, heave hot and thus provisioned and equipped For unknown ports his anchor slipped. Heave ho, my boys, heave ho

In pink pajamas sailed the tar on the crested waves afar Heave ho, my boys, heave ho Unnumbered vessels passed him by But never one gave hall or cry. Heave ho. my boys, heave ho

Bad luck befell him homeward bound The angry seas began to pound. Heave ho, my boys, heave ho! His foghorn boomed, a deep bass snore, His vessel groaned above the roar, Heave ho, my boys, heave ho! They heard his signals sore dismayed. The life crews hastened to his aid.

Heave ho, my boys, heave ho! aight through the surf his craft they bore Heave ho, my boys, heave ho! MCLANDBURGE WILSON QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

I should like some information about the father of Mr. James K. Hackett, the actor. Was the elder Hackett a comedian or a tragedian, and did he appear in England or America? Also, I should be grateful for some data about the late iHenry Placelde, an old New York favorite. AMATEUR. The late James H. Hackett was a fine natural comedian and thorough Shakespearean scholar of the old sort. He made his debut in New York in 1826 and played with great success throughout America for many years. He appeared in England in 1828, 1832, 1845 and 1851. He was the best Falstaff of his century. In England, after the death of Dowton, he was considered the only suc-cessful exponent of the character known to the stage, and in America he never had a rival in the part. His ambition to shine in tragedy led a critic

"Lost in the fat knight's humorous embrace The tragic mask forgot to show its face. And when hereafter Hackett's name we call Twill be as Falstaff, first and best of all.

Henry Placide was born in Charleston, S. C., in 1799. He first appeared at the Anthony Street Theatre, New York, in 1814, and reappeared at the Park Theatre in 1823 as Zekiel Homespun. As a comedian he ranged from Shakespearcan characters such as Dogberry to the fat boy in "Pickwick," and in his later years he played successfully such parts as Lord Oglesby, Sir Anthony Absolute and Sir Peter Teaste. He retired from the stage about 1865.

Would you kindly answer the following as to the Sixth avenue elevated: 1. When was construction commenced? 2. When finished? 3. When opened to public and for what distance? 4. When opened to public between Eighth and Fifty-eighth streets? Charles H. George.

1. In March, 1876, but operations were embar rassed by frequent injunctions issued by the courts, until in October, 1877, final decisions were given in favor of the road and all legal restraints removed. 2. On April 30, 1878, the trial trip took place Aug. 27, 1878, to terminus at Fifty-ninth street.
 Same date. The complete course was then from Morris street, opposite Trinity Church, to Fifty-

To settle an argument effectively will you kindly inswer the two following questions:

1. Where was Oliver Cromwell burled?

2. Was Tammany Society a "Know Nothing" club then first organized?

1. No one has ever definitely settled the answer to your first question, and no one ever will. Some say

that Cromwell was buried in Westminster Abbey, and others say in Naseby Field in compliance with his dying wish to rest at the scene of his great-est triumph. Another account places his remains somewhere near Holborn, while the historian Oldmixon solemnly declares that the body was sheeted in lead and cast into the deepest part of the Thames. The belief of the immediate descendants of the great Protector has always been that he was secretly buried in a field on his paternal estate at Huntington, while at Newburgh Hall, in Yorkshire, there is a vault called Cromwell's vault, and to-day the tradition in the neighborhood is that the remains are there. Gallons of ink have been spilt in the vain attempt to settle this question. A Mr. Henry Lockinge, M. A., late curate of Naseby, in 1830 published an interesting little volume called "Historical Gleanings on the Memorable Field of Naseby, wherein he adduced a certain amount of seemingly satisfactory evidence to prove that the remains "slumber uncommemorated beneath the turf of Naseby Field." There was a prolonged lying in state and a great funeral pageant in Westminster Abbey, but it is doubtful whether the real body figured in either. Moreover, Cromwell must apparently have had at least three heads, as one skull preserved in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford. there is another in the possession of a private indi-vidual at Beckenham, while still a third was for a while placed on public exhibition in London.

The lines saked about and quoted somewhat in-accurately by P. F. W. in THE Sun of Sunday, Aug. 23. are to be found in Robert Browning's "Paracel-sus," a few lines from the end. Given correctly they read as follows:

"If I stoop
Into a dark tremendous sea of cloud.
It is but for a time; I press God's lamp
Close to my breast; its splendor, soon or late.
Will pierce the gloom: I shall emerge one day
ALFRED D, SMITH.

Will you please tell me the days people are admitted into the Brooklyn navy yard, and how to produre a pass, and whether you are allowed to aboard the ships?

ALEXANDER JACKSON.

Passes to the navy yard are recognized only on the day stated on the pass. Passes can be secured by writing to the Captain of the Yard, or at Sands street gate between 9.A. M. and 4 P. M. A postage stamp must be inclosed. Visiting hours are be-tween 10 A. M. and 4 P. M. Application to visit the ships in the yard must be made to the executive

Can THE SUN quote for me a passage which I read and committed to memory many years ago and have since forgotten! It was a description of The True Gentleman," and both in style and substance was worthy of preservation. As I remember, it described the various virtues as ministering to the true gentleman's wants. I have long been unable to trace the passage to its source.

A. VAN S.

You probably refer to this passage from "The Gentile Sinner; or England's Brave Gentleman,

by Clem F. Pills. N. A. Fellow of Queens Col-"The true gentleman is one that is God's servant

the world's master, and his own man. His virtue is his business, his study his recreation, contentedness his rest and happiness his reward. God is his Father, the Church is his mother, the saints his prethren, all that need him his friends, and heaven his inheritance. Religion is his mistress, loyalty and justice her ladies of honor, devotion is his chaplain, chastity his chamberlain, sobriety his butler, temperance his cook, hospitality his house-keeper, providence his steward, charity his treas-urer, plety his mistress of the house and discretion the porter to let in and out the most fit. Thus is his whole family made up of virtues and he the true master of the family. He is necessitated to take the world in his way to Heaven, but he walks through it as fast as he can; and all his happines: way is to make himself and others hanny Take him all in two words, he is a man and a Chris

Can the interesting story of "The Lincoin Plot" be had in book form? The story ran for quite a while in THE SUN, you will remember. How can I secure the complete story? HAYDON JONES. Apply to W. B. Kines, the Baltimore American.

Are metal railroad crosstles in use on any of the European roads and are they a satisfactory substitute for timber? Metal ties, principally cast, have been used on various roads abroad for fifty years. They are not altogether a success and most roads substitute timber again. Not only is cost an objection, but they make construction too light and fall to get a good hold in the ballast, thus rendering it difficult to keep the track in line.

A. P.—The dispute between Brooks and Baxter of Arkansas, as to which was duly elected Governor, occurred in 1874. The United States troops were called out and Baxter put an end to the difficulty

Please answer for a SUN reader, and for any one who may contemplate a visit to the St. Louis exposition, the following question: Which is the best exposition guide published, that will enable the week or ten day visitor to see the world's fair at St. Louis in the most comprehensive and edvantageous way?

W. SHALER.

The World's Work special double exposition number, published in August by Doubleday, Page & should be about as useful as anything of

Kindly give names and dates connected with the various attempts to swim the Whiripool Rapids, Niagara, and state whether any were successful. P. P. N. Capt. Webb was drowned in an attempt to swin them July 24, 1883. C. D. Graham passed through them safely in an

oak barrel constructed by him for the purpose July 11, 1886.

Charles A. Perry passed through them safely, Walter S. Campbell swam them in a cork jacket Sept. 15, 1889.

1. Do goods and produce coming into the United States from Porto Rico pay the same tariff duties as those of other countries? 2. What proportion of the Porto Pican population is engaged in agriculture? 3. What is the average size of a farm and that of a sugar or coffee plantation there? C. G. 1. No. President McKinley on July 25, 1901, by proclamation established absolute free trade be en Porto Rico and the United States from date. 2. About 62 per cent. of the working population. 3. Statistics of land tenure show that there are about 40,000 farms and that the average area per farm is 45 acres. Sugar and coffee plan-tations vary in area from 150 to 500 acres.

A. R.-Investigation by the Secretary of the Interior showed that in 1902 there were in existence in the United States about 1,100 American bison or Canada deported 600 wild buffalo and sixty nine in captivity.

Full information as to Crown lands available for settlement may be obtained from the Government land agencies situated at various convenient points. The Canadian Pacific Railroad and other com panies having large available areas will also give you full octails as to their grants. "The Statistical Year Book of Canada." Issued annually by the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, gives the land regulations and all necessary information. THE MORAYS AT HOME.

Pipes for Them to Get Into-Other Things New at the Aquarium.

In the tank of the big green morays at the Aquarium has been placed, to occupy the great eels' time and to amuse and gratify them, a three foot length of ten inch drain

Where the green morays come from, the Bermudas, they inhabited waters around coral rocks and reefs that have in them many cavernous recesses and are honeycombed with holes and passages. A moray can go in at some opening at one side of a reef and come out at the other; and the morays spend a good part of their time in these retreats. They like to lurk in them, and they come out of them or lie in wait at the openings of them for prey.

In this they are only like many fishes which like to get into holes and cracks and crevices in the rocks on the bottom, like the blackfish, for instance, and like tactics must be pursued in fishing for them. The man fishing for blackfish knows that when he gets a bite he must give his line no slack, or the blackfish may get under some shelving rock and saw the line off. And so with a green moray, which may

have a third of its body out of a hole in

the coral rock, looking for food, and which may take a baited hook. If the moray gets a chance to back in, it may break the line and the fisherman may lose his fish. and the fisherman may lose his.nsn.
When the drain pipe was first put in
the green morays' tank, placed lying on
the bottom, the morays for an hour investigated it, and then the biggest of them,
which is not much less than seven feet in length, went through it four times in five minutes, and now some one of them is likely to be found in it at any time.

likely to be found in it at any time.

The smallest of these giant eels is more than five feet long, so that when any one of them is in the pipe its head and a part of its body stick out at one end, and a goodly section of its tail at the other; and they like to lie in the pipe in this manner, and to some extent they take turns at it.

One of them may lie in it for an hour or more, and then another one of them may come around and thrust its curious pointed, elongated, triangle shaped head into the pipe at the end from which the tail of the occupant at the time is sticking, as a hint to the eel in it to get out, and when the one in the pipe slides out, the other the one in the pipe slides out, the other slides in and occupies it for a time. The green morays like the drain pipe; it gives them a little touch of home.

The green morays at the Aquarium are in a big double tank in the ground floor tier, salt water side. In a tank in the gallery tier on this side there are two spotted morays, each of them about 2½ feet in length. A piece of pipe has also been provided for these morays, in which they appear to find equal enjoyment with the

provided for these morays, in which they appear to find equal enjoyment with the green morays in theirs.

The pipe is five inches in diameter, big enough for both morays to get into at once, and originally it was three feet long. But both morays would get into it and hide themselves completely from the public, the pipe being longer than their bodies. So the pipe was broken crosswise at about one-third the distance from one end and both sections left in the tank.

Now both the spotted morays may be

Now both the spotted morays may be seen in the longer section at once, one of them perhaps with its head out at one end and the other with its head out at the other end, and one of them may at the same time have its tail in the short section of pipe, lying near lying near.

There have lately been received at the Aquarium five sea horses which were taken from the ocean off Atlantic City. These are the first the Aquarium has had on exhibition for some months. They are fine specimens and active, the largest of them about five inches in length, and they attract the attention of all visitors.

INSTRUCTION.

WANTED

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